AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title please insert the following statement and heading:

This is a National Stage entry of International Application PCT/EP2004/052954, with an international filing date of November 12, 2004, which was published as WO 2005/046905 A1, and the complete disclosure of which is incorporated into this application by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 2, please amend the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 to read as follows:

A flanging machine ~~according to the preamble of independent Claim 1~~of the above-mentioned type is known, for example, from European patent application EP 0 924 005. According to this known solution, the vertical movement of the tool-carrying unit is driven by a screw mechanism controlled by an electric motor, whereas the movement towards and away from the working area (in this case, a tilting movement) is driven by a leverage controlled by a pneumatic cylinder.

Page 3, after the first full paragraph please insert the following new paragraphs and heading:

German utility model DE 295 11 071 U discloses a driving sys-tem for driving a tool-carrying unit of a machine for the working of sheet metal parts, in particular a bending or punching machine, wherein the tool-carrying unit is slidably mounted along a vertical direction on a supporting structure of the machine. This known driving system comprises a driving shaft

rotatably mounted on the supporting structure and carrying two cam discs engaging with two rollers mounted on the tool-carrying unit. The one cam disc and roller assembly controls the working stroke of the tool-carrying unit, while the other cam disc and roller assembly controls the return stroke of the tool-carrying unit.

A flanging machine ~~according to the preamble of the independent Claim 1~~ for the working of sheet metal parts is known from European patent application EP-A-0 933 148. In this case, the vertical reciprocating motion of the tool-carrying unit is driven by an electric motor which is fixedly mounted on a supporting structure of the machine and operates a driving shaft rotatably mounted on the sup-porting structure and connected to the tool-carrying unit by means of a cam and lever mechanism.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 3, please delete the third and fourth full paragraphs in their entirety to eliminate the reference to specific claims within the body of the specification.

Page 4, before the first full paragraph please insert the heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 6, please insert the following heading and amend the first paragraph to read as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring first to Figures ~~1~~ 3 to 10, a flanging machine ac-cording to the invention, generally indicated 20, comprises:

a stationary base 22, intended to be fixed to the floor or mounted on a proper support plane (not illustrated) arranged parallel to the plane in which the edge portions of the sheet metal panels to be connected by flanging lie;

a movable base 24, mounted on the stationary base 22 so as to be movable parallel to the latter towards or away from the working area (double arrow X), hereinafter indicated as longitudinal direction;

a main body 26 fixed to the movable base 24 and having substantially a portal-like structure;

a movable unit 28, mounted on the main body 26 so as to be movable vertically (double arrow Z), that is, perpendicularly to the plane of the two bases 22, 24; and

a tool-carrying unit 10 of the same type as that described above with reference to Figure 2, which is fixed onto the movable unit 28.

Page 13, please amend the paragraph bridging pages 13 and 14 to read as follows:

In a fifth phase, the movable unit 28 is moved longitudinally until it reaches the "loading/unloading" position illustrated in Figure 12E, while the la cam 76 is held stationary in the initial position of Figure 13.

Please delete the improper second paragraph of the Abstract containing the parenthetical phrase "(Figure 6)".